

March 12, 2009

**RE: Policy Decisions for Immediate Implementation—Important correction**

Dear T/RBHA CEOs,

There was an error noted in the letter dated March 11, 2009 that addressed the new policy decisions enacted by the Arizona Department of Health Services, Division of Behavioral Health Services.

Please note the correct timeframes for re-authorization for Level II and Level III residential settings. The information in the table is correct, and the narrative below the table should reflect the timeframes noted in the table.

The relevant section from the letter is attached below with the correct timeframes.

**1. Require Prior Authorization and Re-Authorization of Residential Services for all members, regardless of eligibility status:**

- a. ADHS/DBHS will work with the T/RBHAs to develop and implement statewide prior authorization and re-authorization criteria for Level II, Level III, and Home Care Training for Home Care Client (HCTC). Once implemented, all T/RBHAs must utilize the same criteria.<sup>1</sup>
- b. The following requirements and timeframes will apply:

	PA Required?	Re-Authorization Required?	Timeframe for Re-Authorization
<b>Level I RTC</b>	Yes (existing)	Yes (existing)	Every 30 days
<b>Level II</b>	Yes	Yes	Every 60 days
<b>Level III</b>	Yes	Yes	Every 90 days
<b>HCTC</b>	Yes	Yes	Every 90 days

- i. Level II Residential (Prior Authorization and Re-Authorization every **60** days)

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<sup>1</sup> Until these criteria are finalized, T/RBHAs may develop and utilize their own criteria as described in the letter from ADHS/DBHS dated February 19, 2009.

- ii. Level III Residential (Prior Authorization and Re-Authorization every **90** days)
  - iii. Home Care Training for Home Care Client (HCTC; Re-Authorization every 90 days; Prior authorization is not required for this service)
- c. The following ADHS/DBHS Provider Manual Section(s) will be revised to reflect these changes:
  - i. Provider Manual Section 3.14, *Securing Services and Prior Authorization*